

**CONCEPT-BASED SYSTEM FOR REPRESENTING AND
PROCESSING MULTIMEDIA OBJECTS WITH ARBITRARY
CONSTRAINTS**

5

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Disclosed is a method and apparatus for querying stored multimedia data in a computer system, comprising receiving into an intermediate level a high-level concept from a user describing data to be retrieved, translating, in said intermediate level, said high-level concept into low-level queries by using system pre-defined high-level concepts, transferring said low-level queries to a low level comprising one or more search engines; said one or more search engines performing a query of the stored multimedia information using said low-level queries. A matching algorithm for use with the invention is also disclosed.

10

15

092539 080901
T06030 263266